

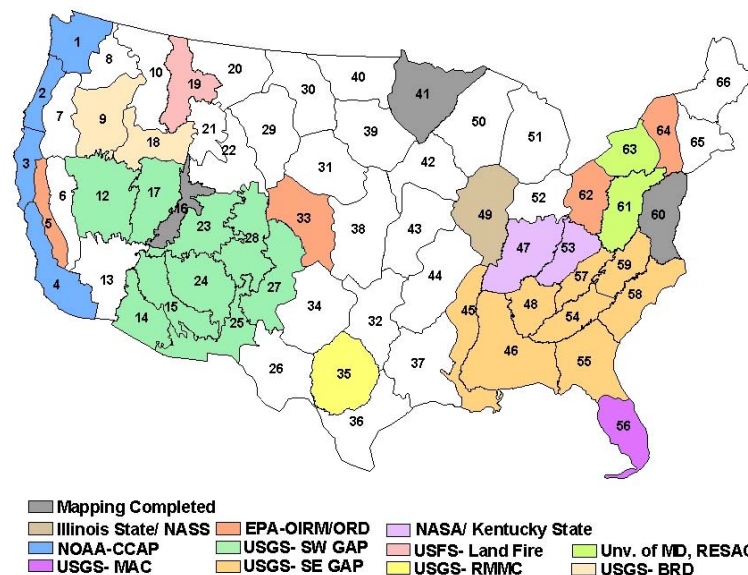
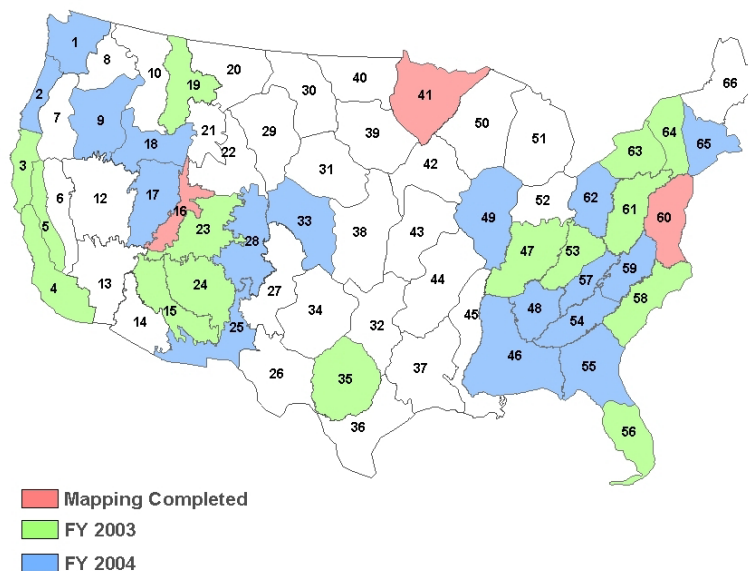
emails, as well as regular meetings required to keep the Consortium functioning. Partner contributions are a major source of funding and data for the NLCD.

The NLCD is the land cover component of *The National Map*. MRLC Consortium partners depend on the satellite data and land cover database to support their programs. The USGS GAM Program depends on NLCD for the Status and Trends Report on the Nation's land surface.

Strategy and Approach

The NLCD will be produced over a 5-year period, from FY 2001 to FY 2006, at a total cost of about \$12M. The entire U.S., including Puerto Rico, will be covered. This project is supported by USGS appropriated funds and reimbursable funds from MRLC Partners. The database approach allows for mapping zones to be done independently by government analysts, contractors, or cooperators. Maximum effort is being expended to use partnerships to accomplish the mapping through proposals, inter-agency agreements, and other cost-share agreements.

Five tasks are identified to accomplish this project. The MRLC Consortium task conducts NLCD project management, and coordination of Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium activities. The Consortium includes



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developing the NLCD.

USGS, EPA, NASA, NRCS, USFS, BLM, NPS, and NOAA. The NLCD Data Preparation task ensures

collection and processing of Landsat-7 satellite imagery, ground data, and a variety of ancillary data sets ranging from aerial photography to topographic derivatives. This data preparation is required for subsequent processing in the NLCD Data Production Task. The NLCD Data Production employs "decision tree" software to process a variety of information inputs to identify and label the land cover type for each 30-meter pixel. Analysts create decision tree models, then review and revise the decision tree output to produce the final derivative land cover database. The NLCD Strategies task employs scientists who create new procedures and approaches for mapping land cover in support of the NLCD. Techniques are adapted or created, tested, evaluated, and if successful, incorporated into the NLCD Data Production Task. The World Data Center task provides assistance to users of Land Cover data, coordinates activities of EDC's World Data Center for Land Cover Data, and conducts applications of the data

For More Information

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